

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY

**NADS**  
**25.2**

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**Vol. 25, No. 2**

**May 1993**

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*NADS is sent in January, May and September to all ADS members. Send ADS dues (\$25 for 1993), queries and news to editor and executive secretary Allan Metcalf, English Dept., MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois 62650, phone (217) 479-7049 or (217) 479-7000, fax (217) 245-5214.*

*From:*

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY  
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**FIRST CLASS**

Forwarding and Address  
Correction Requested

## Our First Meeting of the Summer: DSNA in Las Vegas, May 24–26

The Dictionary Society of North America, a congenial congregation of those who venture the domitable task of doing dictionaries (or studying them), gathers at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for its ninth biennial meeting May 24–26. It is so germane to ADS interests and infiltrated with ADS members that it has been designated an ADS summer meeting, and all ADS members are welcome.

**Registration** is \$65, including banquet and refreshments. On-campus housing is available at \$12 per person double occupancy or \$17 single occupancy. Off-campus housing is available at \$24 (single or double) at the Quality Inn, 377 East Flamingo Rd., three-quarters of a mile from the meeting room. Call (702) 733-7777 or (800) 634-6617 and ask for the DSNA special rate.

For information on registration contact the UNLV Division of Continuing Education, (702) 895-3707. For program information, contact program chair (and former ADS president) Thomas Clark, Dept. of English, (702) 895-3533 or 895-3473.

### MONDAY, MAY 24

HENDRIX EDUCATION AUDITORIUM, UNLV

9:00 Welcoming remarks

Morning session leader: **Louis T. Milic**

9:30 "An Analytic Dictionary of English Etymology." **Anatoly Liberman**, Univ. of Minnesota.—The necessity of bibliographical research, choice of contemporary vocabulary, and need for various indexes for the ADEE will be discussed in detail.

10:00 "The Bibliographical Database for a New Dictionary of English Etymology." **Martha Berryman**, Univ. of Minnesota.—The database tags each nonstandard word as to type and facilitates the addition and gathering of related information. Each point of the database's organization will be discussed.

10:50 "Work in Progress at the Cambridge Language Survey." **Paul Procter**, Cambridge Univ. Press.—CLS is a multilingual survey involving academic, publishing and industrial partners from several European countries. Work in progress includes sense-tagged corpora, semantic tagging, and parallel monolingual dictionary development.

11:20 "The Consortium for Lexical Research."

**Louise Guthrie, Margarita Gonzalez, and Yorick Wilks**, Computing Research Laboratory.—To eliminate the "bottleneck" of inadequate lexical information, the CLR has been established as a pre-competitive clearinghouse for lexical data and software.

Afternoon session leader: **David K. Barnhart**.

1:30 "Taking Usage Seriously." **Geoffrey Nunberg**, Stanford Univ.—The debate between prescriptivism and descriptivism in the 1950s and 60s resulted in difficulties on both sides. Resolving the conflict for the third edition of the *American Heritage Dictionary* required a careful analysis of these issues and others, particularly by the dictionary's Usage Panel.

2:00 "Usage in the *American Heritage Dictionary*, Third Edition." **Thomas J. Creswell**, Chicago State Univ., emer.—A full analysis and treatment will be undertaken, with special reference to the underlying philosophy of handling usage. Also discussed will be the critical matters of Usage Panels, notes, and canon.

2:50 "The Dictionary as Grammarian: Grammatical Labels and Grammatical Definitions." **Robert S. Wachal**, Univ. of Iowa.—Major dictionaries show interesting differences in the types and usages of grammatical labels and definitions. In some cases there are surprising deficiencies.

3:20 "The Lexicography of Religious Language: One Editor's Practice." **Edward Gates**, Indiana State Univ., emer.—Within a general dictionary, one must plan to represent the usage of all significant religious groups and historical writing and also keep within the available resources of time, funds, and dictionary space. The handling of various policy problems must be recorded to ensure future consistency.

### TUESDAY, MAY 25

HENDRIX EDUCATION AUDITORIUM, UNLV

Morning session leader: **Morton Benson**

9:00 "The Unabridged Dictionary in America: The Passing of an Era." **Sidney I. Landau**, Cambridge Univ. Press.—This theory traces the history of unabridged dictionaries in America, paying special attention to the economic conditions that made

(Please turn to Page 4)

Make friends at  
the American  
Name Society  
meeting too.

# ANNUAL MEETING 1993

Reserve a room  
or suite now at  
one of the world's  
great hotels.

Toronto • December 27-30

## Tentative Program

• The full program, including abstracts, will appear in the September newsletter. However, you don't have to wait to reserve a room (Cdn \$95) or Executive Suite (Cdn \$115) at the FOUR SEASONS TORONTO—said to be one of the two or three best hotels in North America. Call toll-free (800) 332-3442 in the United States, (800) 268-6282 in Canada, or the hotel directly at (416) 964-0411. Ask for the American Dialect Society meeting rates. For brochures on the hotel and Toronto, write ADS Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf.

### Wednesday, December 29

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

Morning (time to be announced): ADS  
Executive Council

Open meeting; all members welcome.

1:00–5:00 p.m.: O Canada! French in  
Northern North America

Chair: ADS President **John Baugh**. Program:

• "The Uniformitarian Principle as Reflected in the Fishing Terminology of Acadian French Fishermen." **Rose Mary Babitch**, Moncton Univ.

• "Grading Phonetic and Lexical Variation in Acadian French." **Wladyslaw Cichocki**, Univ. of New Brunswick.

• "Comparative Dialectology: Acadian French in Nova Scotia." **Karin Flikeid**, St. Mary's Univ.

• "Diphthongization in the Quebec French Vernacular." **Malcah Yaeger-Dror**, Univ. of Arizona.

• "Use of Conjunction *comme* as a Discourse Marker in the Spoken French of Welland, Ontario." **Raymond Mougeon**, York Univ.

• **Ruth King**, York Univ.

• **Claude Paradis**, Montreal.

• "Le Dictionnaire de fréquence des mots du français parlé du Québec." **Normand Beauchemin**, Univ. of Sherbrooke.

5:00–6:00 p.m.: New Words of 1993

6:00–7:00 p.m.: Bring-Your-Own-Book  
Exhibit and Reception

### Thursday, December 30

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

8:00–9:00 a.m.: Annual Business Meeting

Chair: ADS President **John Baugh**.

• Elections; reports of officers, editors, committee chairs, regional secretaries.

9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon: General Session

Chair: ADS President **John Baugh**. Program:

• "The Fight for *Fantasyland*." **Thomas M. Paikeday**, Mississauga, Ontario.

• "In Search of the Other 'Down East': A Case Study of the Treatment of a Regional Place Name in American Dictionaries." **Bruce Southard**, East Carolina Univ.

• "Variation in /s/ as a Gender Determinant." **Daniel Naslund**, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth.

• "The (Un)ruly Apostrophe." **Kathleen Ann Kelly**, Northeastern Univ.

• "Recent Trends in Teaching about Language Variation." **Kathryn Riley**, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, and **Frank Parker**, Louisiana State Univ.

• "Methods in Dialectology: Reappraising the 'State of the Art.'" **Thomas E. Murray**, Kansas State Univ.

• "Nonstandard Dialects and Academic Success: Iron Range Speech and Vernacular Black English." **Michael D. Linn**, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth.

12:15–1:45 p.m.: Annual Luncheon

FOR THE ADS PROGRAM AT MLA,  
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## The Second Day of DSNA: Las Vegas, Tuesday, May 25

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such works possible. It also postulates the difficulty of now producing such a work in print form. Later electronic dictionaries may not present the same coverage as the previous print forms.

9:30 "Illustrating Webster." **Michael Hancher**, Univ. of Minnesota.—Despite Noah Webster's original doubts, pictures eventually breached the pages of his *American Dictionary of the English Language* in 1859. Although many of these were small woodcuts, some took remarkable form with lasting lexicographical and ideological implications.

10:00 "Dating in Merriam-Webster's *Collegiate Dictionary*." **Joanne M. Despres**. The decision to include dates of first occurrence in the *Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary* presented a host of problems to editors, such as scope of coverage and availability of space. A most challenging difficulty lay in avoiding wholesale reproduction of *OED* dates, one however overcome due to the fullness of Merriam's files and editorial research on 20th-century vocabulary.

10:50 "Some Slavic and Northern Asia Loanwords in English Dictionaries." **James Rader**, Merriam-Webster.—Determining the etymology of Slavic and Asian loanwords has met with mixed success in prior dictionaries. To illuminate some individual cases, it is necessary to remove preconceived notions about their etymologies, even to the extent of realizing that some words possess a more obscure history than originally believed.

11:20 "Universal Grammar and Grammatical Information in ESL Dictionaries." **Edward Scott McCorduck**. Research in second-language acquisition may be applied to the issue of providing grammatical information in ESL dictionaries, especially in regard to the theory of universal grammar. The theoretical questions involved require both in-depth examination and specific examples.

Afternoon session leader: **Virginia G. McDavid**, Chicago State Univ., emer.

1:30 "A Century of Phonetic Change in the Western Reserve." **Donald M. Lance**, Univ. of Missouri.—The speech of seven individuals who grew up in the Western Reserve area of northeastern Ohio (among them John Samuel Kenyon) reveals no ma-

JOR changes in phonemic inventory from 1874 to 1972 but several phonetic changes.

2:00 "Dialects and 19th-Century English." **Richard W. Bailey**, Univ. of Michigan.—The intellectual history of the term *dialect* takes interesting form during the 19th century. It was marked by an abundance of studies on the subject; the inauguration of the American Dialect Society; the flowering of dialect literature on both sides of the Atlantic, and the evaluation of serious, as well as comic, dialect speakers.

2:30 "Problems in New-Word Lexicography." **John Algeo**, Univ. of Georgia.—Among the problems are the questions of term and source legitimacy, especially in reference to general or permanent usage.

3:20 "Michael West and the *New Method English Dictionary: Tracing the Origins of the English Monolingual Learner's Dictionary*." **John Battenburg**, California Polytechnic State Univ.—West's dictionary altered English lexicography in several important ways.

3:50 "Noah Webster's Last Dictionary, 1841." **Edwin A. Miles**. Webster's decision at the age of 80 to bring out his own edition of the *American Dictionary* entailed multiple financial and familial complications. Details of these difficulties reveal hitherto little-known aspects of Webster's life and work.

5:00 Cash bar; 6:00 Banquet.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

HENDRIX EDUCATION AUDITORIUM, UNLV  
Morning session leader: **William S. Chisholm**

9:00 "Defining Politeness: The Dictionary's Answer to a Sociopragmatic Problem." **Ardith J. Meier**, Univ. of Northern Iowa.—A history of inconsistencies in defining linguistic politeness could have been avoided by consulting a dictionary.

9:30 "Dictionary Definitions of Linguistic Terms." **P.K. Saha**, Case Western Reserve Univ.—Definitions of linguistic terms are especially weak. Inadequate coordination between related definitions, as well as missing definitions, compounds this error.

10:00 "The Pre-History of the *OED*." **Richard W. Bailey**, Univ. of Michigan.—Besides continental  
(Please turn once more, to Page 15)

## Since 1925: A Ride with the Cavalcade

By ALLEN WALKER READ

Columbia University, emeritus

(Talk before the American Dialect Society at the Annual Luncheon, the Atrium Club, New York City, Dec. 30, 1992)

When, earlier in the year, I was invited to speak at this annual luncheon, I felt deeply honored. Part of the honor came to me, I'm sure, because of my long membership in the Society. I joined in the year 1927, sixty-five years ago. With the sad passing of Hans Kurath, I became the member with the longest span of membership. I am not necessarily the oldest member, for any old codger, older than I am, could join, but his span would not equal mine.

In a moment of exuberance, I turned in a title that I now regard as unpardonably pretentious. It is "The Cavalcade of Scholars in American English since 1925." In preparing my remarks, I found that I could not possibly deal with it. The "cavalcade" has marched on throughout all these 65 years, and the people in this room are part of it.

Leaving behind the figure of speech "Cavalcade," I will salvage only one element of the title, the date 1925. That was the year when I broke into the field of American English, and I hope I can share with you some of the exhilaration that it gave me. What a challenge it was!

In June of 1925, I received my B.A. from a small college in northeastern Iowa, at the age of 19, and I applied for a teaching position at a number of high schools. They viewed my credentials favorably, but then invariably turned me down with the statement, "Why, many of your pupils would be older than you are."

The next best thing was to go on for graduate work, so in the fall I went down to the State University, in Iowa City, kindly being given a scholarship.

### REVOLUTION IN THE MIDDLE WEST

I was unusually fortunate in the professors that I found there. My supervisor turned out to be a leader in our field, Thomas A. Knott. My college had not had any courses in English language, so I broke new ground with Dr. Knott. He was a champion of the change of attitudes—a full-blown revolution—that was taking place in the 1920s. The purists had a

stranglehold in most departments of English, and the recognition of normal colloquial English was something new and revolutionary.

At first I was appalled, for I myself had grown up in a puristic household. A real battle was being fought in the National Council of Teachers of English.

Right after I got to Iowa City, Dr. Knott became a great center of excitement. We heard the gossip that he was being invited to become the managing editor of a new edition of *Webster's New International*, and he would have to leave for Springfield, Mass., to work for the G. & C. Merriam Company. The news kept seesawing back and forth: Yes, he had accepted—No, he hadn't—Yes, he had. As patriotic Iowans, we felt that we had a stake in the decision. Would an old New England institution actually accept someone who had grown up in Chicago and had such a flat, nasal accent?

We felt honored by his decision to go, and I remember putting down notes for an article that I never wrote, about a Sir Galahad from the West setting out to rescue the English language.

Before I went to Iowa City, some friends had advised me that I ought to think up some subject to write about for my master's essay (or "dissertation," as we called it). During that previous year, I had been reading Mencken's *American Language* as a bedside book, doing small parts at a time, since I fell asleep fast in those days. That must have been the second edition of 1922. I was especially inspired by his chapter on American place names, and it occurred to me that there was a good subject—Iowa place names.

At an early conference with Dr. Knott, the subject of a dissertation came up, and for a person of my interests he suggested reading and preparing slips for the *Middle English Dictionary* that was then based at Cornell University in Ithaca. Other students were doing that to the benefit of the project and their own development. Then I tentatively and sheepishly mentioned the possibility of place names, and Dr. Knott was struck by it. The result was a fruitful year of delving into a phase of Iowa history.

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## Since 1925 (Cont.): Iowa, Missouri, and Louise Pound

After my one semester with him, Dr. Knott had to leave for Springfield, and I am very grateful that I began my work with such an inspirational teacher.

It is true that his reputation went into an eclipse a few years later, in the 1930s. When I taught for a year at the Illinois Institute of Technology, one of my colleagues was **Sanford B. Meech**. When by chance I spoke highly of Dr. Knott, he was deeply offended. It turned out that he and Harold Whitehall had been discharged by Dr. Knott from the staff of the *Middle English Dictionary* for insubordination.

After the second edition of Webster was published in 1934, Dr. Knott went to Ann Arbor to take over the editing of the *Middle English Dictionary*. It was in the middle of the depression of that time, with low funds, and he was suggesting a compromise in its scope in order to produce a work in reasonable time. He developed a brain tumor which may, some people felt, have affected his judgment. Then **Hans Kurath** took over with revised plans, and the letter S has been finished in the present year.

For the second semester of my work at Iowa City, the supervision was taken over by another splendid scholar, **Frank Luther Mott**, now known as America's best historian of magazines and newspapers. He was a devoted supporter of the regionalist movement and helped edit *The Midland* magazine. He had done a dissertation at Columbia University on early Iowa dialect words, which was published in the first volume of the *Philological Quarterly*.

So far as I knew, I was the first person to do an academic dissertation on American place names, but I discovered that in the previous year **Louise Pound** had directed such a work on Nebraska, by **Lilian Linder Fitzpatrick**, and it came out in print while I was still working on my own. I discovered good work by historians on Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and the state of Washington; and Lewis McArthur's work on Oregon was appearing serially in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly*. I covered the entire state of Iowa, but had time to write up only part of it for my dissertation.

The University of Missouri at Columbia was hiring a group of young instructors as Freshman English teachers, and I had the good fortune to be

picked out for the job by the Iowa department. So in 1926, at the age of 20, I was faced with a new set of experiences. My most outstanding experience was becoming a warm friend of Professor **Robert L. Ramsay**, who influenced me deeply. I stayed in awe of his rich scholarship, which extended from Old English to Mark Twain's English.

Dr. Ramsay was also a leader in the regionalist movement, which was burgeoning in many parts of the country. The Southerners had issued their manifesto, "I'll Take My Stand"; B.A. Botkin was publishing his *Folk-Say* in Oklahoma; the *Prairie Schooner* was going strong in Nebraska, along with Iowa's *Midland*; and we were all proud of regional writers like Carl Sandburg, Ruth Suckow, and Glenway Westcott.

### ALONG THREE FRONTS

Especially in those years, the study of American English was burgeoning, along three fronts. The plans for the *Linguistic Atlas* were being formulated, involving many theoretical issues. The second front was in lexicography. **Percy Long** was pushing hard for a fruition of an American dialect dictionary, which our scholars had had as a goal since 1889, following the model of England's Joseph Wright. When Percy Long took on the responsibility of running the Modern Language Association as its secretary, he passed the dialect dictionary matters on to **Miles Hanley**.

Complementary to the dialect dictionary was to be one of the period dictionaries that **William A. Craigie** had projected. **John Matthews Manly** had been impressed by this and had got support from foundations to bring him to the University of Chicago. Their plans kept appearing each year in *Dialect Notes*, and it was exciting to learn about all that was going on.

The third front was the founding of the magazine *American Speech*, in 1925, which was the most exciting of all to me. The prime mover of this enterprise was **Louise Pound**. She published several studies of mine, especially my delving into the Iowa roots of the word *blizzard*, as applied to a severe snow storm.

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## Since 1925 (Cont.): *American Speech*, Linguistic Society, Rhodes Scholar

I first met her on a trip she made to the University of Missouri on behalf of Phi Beta Kappa, and later I usually saw her at the scholarly meetings, and she was always a strong inspiration to me. She was not afraid to take a firm position in controversies that arose, especially in the field of folklore. She made enemies, and I remember a startling conversation I had with Percy Long. When her name came up, he declared with great heat, "That woman is a liar!"

I have no idea of what she was supposed to have lied about, and was too stunned to ask; but he prevented her from being elected president of MLA, and she finally became president at an advanced age after he had left office.

At first, *American Speech* was a monthly, and she had trouble filling it. She had to accept some articles that she was ashamed of. Especially I remember a vapid piece called "A Ramble in the Garden of Words," by Frank Vizetelly, of the *Literary Digest*, who polluted linguistic discussion week after week with his "Lexicographer's Easy Chair."

Miss Pound was a giantess in the field, and I owe much to her.

### A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

I went to my first meetings of the scholarly societies in December of 1927, traveling from Columbia, Missouri, to Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Linguistic Society of America, at the third meeting of its existence. All FMs (founding members) are now gone, and my class of 1926 has few in it.

It was especially rewarding to meet Hans Kurath for the first time. He was remarkably cordial to me and kept commenting on how young I seemed to be. I did not realize until sometime later that he had mistaken me for William A. Read, a deeply learned scholar who had been at Louisiana State University since the 1890s.

I felt much honored when Arthur G. Kennedy of Stanford University invited me as his guest for lunch. His standard bibliography was just out, and we discussed Louise Pound, whose student he had been at Nebraska. On the last day of that convention I took a train for nearby Louisville, where the MLA was having its meeting, and there I saw others whom I was glad to meet, and gave a paper before English

XIII, recommended by Dr. Knott out of the Introduction to the dissertation that I had started with him. Miles Hanley had not been able to hear it, but then asked me to lend him my manuscript, so that he could go through it.

Altogether, my two years at the University of Missouri were an exciting period, and activities in the field of American English kept bubbling up. Then a change of pace came my way, when I was appointed to a Rhodes scholarship, to continue graduate work at Oxford University in October, 1928.

It offered tremendous opportunities, but it had its drawbacks, because I had concentrated so strongly on American subjects. There I was, a regionalist who had lost his region.

I wish I could continue my story, in order to present the "cavalcade" to you, but I must break off in order to come to the climax of my presentation this afternoon. This will be a little sketch that I wrote more than sixty years ago, fairly faithfully setting forth an incident that took place when I first went to Oxford.

It first appeared in an obscure magazine (*The American Oxonian* 17 [July 1930]: 121-25) and then was selected for reprinting in *The Best Short Stories of 1931* (New York: Dodd, Mead, 1931), when Edward J. O'Brien was in charge of it. Its linguistic content is considerable.

I have timed it, and it will take exactly eleven minutes to present it to you.

Mr. Chairman, do I have eleven more minutes?  
Here goes.

### RHODES SCHOLAR

BY ALLEN WALKER READ

Over one of the college halls at Oxford University hung an expectant silence. The fifty freshmen gathered on the hard benches for the induction ceremony realized that the Principal was about to arise. They sat stiff and self-conscious, timidly glancing about at the gilt-framed portraits on the walls or looking straight ahead toward the dais at the front. On this platform, a few steps above the main floor, sat a

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## 'Rhodes Scholar' (Cont.): Here at Oxford

row of gowned men behind the heavy oak table. These—actually in the flesh—were the dons that the freshmen had heard about; and in the center, below the intricate coat-of-arms, was the most venerable of the group, the Principal, whose scholarly bearing befitted this somber medieval hall.

One of the new students—he seemed slightly detached—had a more mature cast of eye than the eighteen year olds about him. The rims of his glasses were heavier and darker and his clothes had a broad, un-English cut. He glanced about furtively and the trace of a smile gathered at the corners of his mouth. He was contrasting this solemn scene with that at an American college. There you waited your turn in the hubbub of your adviser's office and later filed hurriedly past a registrar's clerk-girl who whisked papers about in a wicker wire booth.

This student recalled his first American college, where he had got his B.A.—a small denominational institution in a little Iowa town. It was a small school, but he had some true friends on the faculty. Then at the age of twenty-one he had gone up to the State University for a year and got a master's degree in history. He had enjoyed the work and his adviser had liked his thesis. He had proved that the early Iowa settlers were largely Southerners, and that ten years before the Civil War Iowa would have sided with the Southern cause. His biggest ordeal of the year had been trying out for the Rhodes scholarship to come to Oxford University and he had trembled before the examining committee. But after a long discussion they had called in the candidates and announced their decision: "Mr. Ross." Now Mr. Ross, a freshman again, was starting out at Oxford, waiting for the induction ceremony.

He sniffed at the faint sour smell of beer that hung over the room. He would learn later of sconces and convivial "bump suppers."

His eyes and those of all others in the room converged upon the Principal as the aged man put his hands on the carved arms of the chair and lifted himself up. The long, swinging sleeves of his black academic gown gave his figure a sort of regality. He smiled in a grandfatherly way and squinted as if the dim light hurt his eyes.

His informal words of greeting had a smoothness that made them seem perfunctory. For many years, probably, they had welcomed each new freshman group. "You will first read this Latin oath, placing your hand on the Bible," he intoned, "and then sign your name in the Buttery Book." He nodded toward the Vice-Principal, who sat at the end of the table with a double sized ledger in front of him. "You will then be full members of this ancient and honorable college. Now I shall call the roll of candidates for admission to membership."

From the paper in his hand he began reading the names alphabetically: "Mr. Adcock."

The word "Present" came shakily from a freshman off at the side, and every one turned to look at him.

"Mr. Alford."

The answer was a guttural syllable probably meant to be "Here."

"Mr. Arnold."

This was a man with self-assurance. He might become president of the debating society before he left college. With a soft-turned modulation he enunciated, "Heah." His answer seemed to give courage to those who followed.

"Mr. Bartlett." "Heah."

"Mr. Broadhead." "Heah."

The Iowa Rhodes scholar noticed that they used the kind of "r" that he called "Eastun." He affected it jocularly when he put a note-book ring to this eye for a monocle and pretended to have "cultuah." But it seemed to come natural to them. Probably it did come natural. His own "r," he reflected, was actually pronounced in a word.

There was a long list of c's, about a dozen, and the answer came with regularity. "Heah." "Heah." "Heah." "Heah."

With a squirm of the tongue he formed the word as he pronounced it: "He-er." How outlandish it would sound in this group, he realized.

"Mr. Dallam." "Heah."

"Mr. Dunsworth." "Heah."

The Rhodes scholar edged forward on the hard bench and a sort of panic came over him. Why, he

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## 'Rhodes Scholar' (Cont.): A Man of the Middle West

couldn't flout this whole group of people, this whole University. He'd have to give in to their pronunciation, of course. He could force himself to say "Heah" if he wanted to.

"Mr. Edmonds." "Heah."

And a Middle-Westerner at that.

"Mr. Farrell." "Heah."

As the steady march continued, the muscles in his shoulders tensed. The r's would come along now in a matter of minutes, and he would have to decide one way or the other. He loved the Middle West. People seldom talked about it, but he knew that he did. He remembered his flare of wrath upon reading an article in a big magazine by a man from the Rockies who said that prairie was monotonous and no one could love it. Why, the prairie was something you could bathe yourself in.

He remembered a certain afternoon during his high school years when the feeling had taken hold of him possessively. He had driven out with this mother from their town home to the farm she had inherited. As she talked about the place with the renter, the son had climbed to the rear door of the haymow that overlooked the fields beyond. The summer's heat held the corn rows in a gelatinous silence and pressed so heavily on the crumbly loam that a soil-whiff rolled up and sent a twinge deep in his throat. These fruity undulations of prairie made a homeland. In cultivating these fields here—

"Mr. Hassall." "Heah."

—his grandfather had spent his life. The boy had thought of his grandfather's stories of early days, stories of hardships and failures and victories, stories that gave this soil a history and a background. This was the boy's region by inheritance.

"Mr. Huddleston." "Heah."

The Rhodes scholar recalled the thesis he had written for his master's degree at this State University. He had fairly immersed himself in the early history of his state. What fun it had been, sitting in the State Historical Library, slowly working through the several panels of county histories. These bulky, old-fashioned volumes, padded with Civil War rosters and records of early business machinations, had chapters that effervesced with pioneers' lives—their

dreams, their brawlings, their courage in breaking sod that was matted with roots of prairie grass.

"Mr. Knox." "Heah."

The scholar gripped the bench. Were they already at the n's? No, a Knox was a k. At that only a few more moments remained until the fatal words "Mr. Ross."

"Mr. Lansdowne." "Heah."

Perhaps he could say "Present" and avoid the difficulty. No, no one had said it since the very first man, and that would be sidestepping the issue anyway. He would have to bend his action one way or the other all during his Oxford time.

"Mr. Lawrence." "Heah."

He darted his eyes feverishly among the English boys. They were still and intent with "first-day" stiffness. They all had on the little commoner's gown, like his own. Each person in front of him was an item of black uniformity. Could he stand out against them all with his own kind of a "here"?

"Mr. Martin." "Heah."

Isn't it the better part of discretion to "fit in"? Didn't his grandparent pioneers adapt themselves to the prairie? Every one had told him not to remain an outsider in Oxford.

"Mr. Murray." "Heah."

He didn't want to be an outsider.

"Mr. Niblett." "Heah."

He was becoming part of an "ancient and honorable" college, with centuries behind it. Shouldn't he submit to its ways? He was sent here to fit in, to get what Oxford was supposed to give. Everybody said "Heah." That was the way. It doesn't pay to make a fool of yourself.

"Mr. Otley." "Heah."

He could change his pronunciation. People had done it before. But it was nasty business, he realized. His teacher in freshman composition had been brought up in Iowa and had got her master's degree at the State University, and then after one summer session at Columbia in New York City she had come back with a full-fledged Eastern accent. How people had razed her behind her back and recounted incidents where she had forgotten for the moment!

*(Please turn to Page 10)*

## 'Rhodes Scholar' (Concluded): The Lady or the Tiger?

"Mr. Padwick," "Heah."

God, the p's!

And there was that fat returned Rhodes scholar at his American college whom everybody had disliked. He had lifted his hat whenever he met another man. He was the kind who said "Heah."

The scholar formed the syllables on his lips, experimentally—"He-ah." How—a—perverted it sounded. He gulped laboriously and swayed forward with his head bent.

"Don't be an outsider," he snarled at himself.

"Don't make a show of yourself here at the beginning!"

"Mr. Partridge." "Heah."

"But I'd be a traitor!" he gasped. "I'm an American, and I know I love my Middle West, my prairie."

"Mr. Pennington." "Heah."

"Don't be a fool!"

"Mr. Radford." "Heah."

"Mr. Ross."

The eyes of the few who had learned his name turned upon him, and before making his answer he rumbled his throat in a preliminary way.

## New Books by ADS Members: Variation, Achievement, Canada, Age

*If you have recently published a book, send pertinent information to Executive Secretary Allan Metcalf (address on cover), and we'll mention it here.*

**Ch.-J. N. Bailey.** *Variation in the Data: Can Linguistics Ever Become a Science?* Orchid Land Publications (POB 1416, Kea'au, Hawaii 96749-1416; fax 808-982-5603). 263 pages. Paperback \$15 with postage. An expansion of the writer's NWAVE-20 keynote address on two topics: First, the extremes of linguistic rationalism (Chomsky's undefended premise of achronist, invariant language analysis) and empiricism (Labov's atomism and his mixing of social and grammatical factors); a holistic approach is advocated, and a time-based (developmentalist) theory of abstracting from a segment up to an entire language is proposed. Second, inadequacies in current phonetic transcription and analysis of the pan-English sound system and verb system. To show what a grammar of the future ought to look like, solutions for perplexing grammatical and morphological phenomena in English are advanced that are not very technical. ISBN 1-881309-03-7.

**Margaret Bryant.** *A Story of Achievement.* Tokyo: Kenkyusha, 1990. Edited and with an introduction by Katsuaki Horiuchi and Koji Sonoda. iii + 283 pages. Paperbound. An autobiographical essay by a leading figure in onomastics, English linguistics, and folklore. She was born in 1900, graduated from Winthrop College in 1921, earned her Ph.D. from Columbia in 1930, and taught at Brooklyn College until her retirement in 1971. Considerable discussion of changing attitudes toward women and of her many travels; nothing on the ADS or her collection of proverbs (see the January newsletter, p. 6). ISBN 4-327-48097-5.

**Gaelan de Wolf.** *Social and Regional Factors in Canadian English: A Study of Phonological Variables and Grammatical Items in Ottawa and Vancouver.* Canadian Scholars' Press (180 Bloor St. West Suite 402, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2V6, Canada; phone 416-929-2774). \$24.95. Using scientifically sampled surveys, this book examines phonological and grammatical variants in standard Canadian English for overall patterns and probable directions of change, according to categories of sex, age, socioeconomic status and location. All linguistic items are investigated with respect to the usage of the majority or of the educated.

**Frank Nuessel.** *The Image of Older Adults in the Media: An Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies and Indexes in Gerontology 18. Greenwood Publishing Group (Box 5007, Westport CT 06881, phone 203-226-3571), November 1992. 224 pages. \$47.95. Lists and annotates more than 550 books and articles. With an introductory essay, author and subject indexes, and chapters on related bibliographies, ageism, media guidelines, literature, art, humor, cartoons, greeting cards, film, music, television, etc. ISBN 0-313-28018-5.

**Frank Nuessel.** *The Semiotics of Ageism.* No. 10 in the Monograph Series of the Toronto Semiotic Circle (Victoria College, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1K7, Canada). The essays in this volume deal with the many linguistic manifestations of prejudice and discrimination based on chronological age. ISSN 0838 5858.

## Joseph Sargent Hall 1906–1992

By MICHAEL MONTGOMERY  
University of South Carolina

On February 14, 1992, the American Dialect Society lost one of its longest-standing members with the passing of Joseph Sargent Hall in Occanside, California, at the age of 85. A member of the society for over half a century, he was a pioneer researcher in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina and an expert on the speech of that region.

He was born on August 21, 1906, in Butte, Montana, and grew up in California, receiving his A.B. (1928) from Stanford and his M.A. (1936) and Ph.D. (1941) from Columbia. He taught at Brooklyn College (1939-41), Hartford Seminary Foundation (1941-42), and Montana State University before spending most of his career at Pasadena City College (1948-72).

Hall began working on Smoky Mountain English in 1937 when, as a student at Columbia, he was hired by the National Park Service to document the lives and lore of the older mountain residents being allowed to remain in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park after the government had purchased their land. An avid outdoorsman, Hall quickly found himself at home with the people and their mountains, filling several notebooks with observations in the summer of 1937, recording dozens of older mountain natives speaking and singing in a seven-month stint in 1939-40 under the auspices of the Park Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps, and continuing to gather data on mountain speech on periodic visits through 1970.

His dissertation on *The Phonetics of Smoky Mountain English* was published in 1942 (*American Speech* Reprints and Monographs 4; Morningside Heights, NY: King's Crown Press). From his recordings came material for three popular paperbacks, *Smoky Mountain Folks and Their Lore* (Gallinburg: Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association, 1960), *Sayings from Old Smoky* (Asheville, NC: Cataloochee Press, 1972), and *Yarns and Tales from the Great Smokies* (Cataloochee, 1978).

Hall's tapes and notebooks are the largest assemblage of evidence on early Smoky Mountain speech

and the first systematic gathering of Appalachian speech data. On two machines, one producing aluminum disks (operated by cables hooked onto the truck battery) and the other making acetate disks of both speech and music, Hall recorded 163 disks from 1939 to 1941. His is one of the oldest and largest groups of Southern mountain residents ever recorded. Several of Hall's speakers were born in the mid-19th century, at least two in the 1840s.

Hall became entranced with the Smokies and returned periodically over the next three decades to enjoy the mountains, renew friendships, and continue his research. He became something of a missionary and antiquarian: romanticism occasionally touched his writing, even his dissertation, but he never lost scholarly perspective, for instance early declaring that "Great Smokies speech is not Elizabethan English transplanted to America" (*Mountain Speech in the Great Smokies*. NPS Popular Study Series 5. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, 1941:12).

His phonetic work was detailed and his historical investigations were scrupulous, reflecting his Columbia training and a traditional paradigm of dialectology interested in tracing historical analogues.

Events were soon to overtake him. The *Linguistic Atlas of New England* was being published in the early 1940s and the atlas approach was quickly becoming the dominant, "progressive" one. Shortly after its publication, Hall's monograph was reviewed (1943) quite negatively in *Language* by an acolyte of the atlas movement who criticized its methodology, including lack of a standard interview format. A modest man, Hall was discountenanced by the experience, concluded his research was outmoded by linguistic standards, and never sought publication in a linguistic outlet again.

There was no dampening his enthusiasm for documenting mountain life, however. In the 1950s and 1960s he shifted his scholarly sights to folklore—traditional music, witchlore, folk medicine, party games, folk tales, superstitions—and made a number of contributions to the *Tennessee Folklore Society Bulletin* on these topics.

(Please turn to Page 12)

## Joseph Sargent Hall (Cont.): Author of 'Arthur'

Because he neither published further in linguistic journals nor, apparently, ever read a paper at an ADS session, his research became virtually unknown to American dialectologists outside those studying Appalachian English and those on the staff of the *Dictionary of American Regional English*, to which he donated a copy of his materials.

After retiring in 1972, he spent his last twenty years compiling an extensive glossary of Smokies speech based on his private collections. Now being edited by this writer, the *Dictionary of Smoky Mountain English* will be the most comprehensive reference work available on Southern mountain speech.

Hall was one of the first to identify and challenge what has become known as "the observer's paradox":

"... if the speakers realized that their speech was being constantly observed, the utterance would have lost in spontaneity. Hence it was necessary to make them forget themselves as much as possible, and this was found practicable in the majority of cases by putting the informants in the track of their favorite subjects or stor[i]es. With men the talk centered mainly around 'old-timey stuff,' such as hunting, making liquor before the Park era, misfortunes, tragedies and court trials now generally forgotten; with women the most productive topics were activities connected with the home, their favorite remedies for illnesses, weaving, cooking, and the conditions of living in their younger days." (*Folk-lore and Folk History in the Great Smoky Mountains*. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, 1940: 1-2.)

Even so, Hall's experiences persuaded him that "most of them were very independent people and didn't care what people thought about their speech" (Interview with Michael Montgomery about field work. Taped Jan. 8, 1990). He was a self-trained, but sensitive, field worker; because his approach was to ask broad, open-ended questions, the responses he recorded were often fast-paced, uninterrupted narratives (especially the bear-hunting accounts), of extreme value to modern-day linguists seeking stretches of natural speech to study discourse structure or undertake quantitative analysis. Hall edited many of these for his 1960 and 1978 books.

Like many other dialectologists of his day, Hall had many of his speakers read the short fable about an ambivalent rat, a text dating to Daniel Jones, who titled it "Grip the Rat." It was Hall who renamed the protagonist "Arthur," and "Arthur the Rat" soon became the standard version for American investigators.

Hall never relinquished his belief that his collections would ultimately interest language historians. He deposited a copy of all his manuscripts and recordings—the latter including a great deal of music (square dances, ballads, hymns)—in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress; his originals are being donated to the Archives of Appalachia at East Tennessee State University. They are now available to all interested scholars.

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## ADS at MLA in December

**Nation, Education, and Publication:** ADS-sponsored session at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, Toronto, Dec. 27–30. Time and place to be announced. Chair: ADS vice president **Lawrence M. Davis**. Program:

- "Canadian Dictionaries and Canadian Standard English." **T.K. Pratt**, Univ. of Prince Edward Island.
- "Gender and Education Differences in Linguistic Atlas Informants." **Virginia G. McDavid**, Chicago State Univ., emer.
- "At Last: The Handbook of the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle and South Atlantic States." **William A. Kretschmar, Jr.**, Univ. of Georgia.

## Nominations Still Invited

Letters nominating outstanding students for four-year **Presidential Honorary Memberships** may be sent to ADS President **John Baugh**, School of Education, Stanford Univ., Stanford CA 94305-3096.

## Survey Reminder

If you have not completed the questionnaire on teaching about language variation in the January *NADS*, please take a moment to fill it in and send to **Kathy Riley**, Dept. of Composition, Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth MN 55804.

Completed surveys are due by September 1. Contact her if you need a copy. Thanks for participating!

## Mexican Handshakes, Anyone? DARE Asks Our Help Once Again

Any information you can furnish on the following items will be welcome. Write to Prof. F. G. Cassidy, Dictionary of American Regional English, 6125 Helen White Hall, 600 North Park St., Madison, WI 53706.

**jiggerweed**—reported from the Florida Keys: *Boerhavia erecta*. Why the name? Is there some association with chiggers/jiggers?

**johnny humpback**—from Alabama and Kentucky, where, writes James Still, boys “fished” them out of “dirt holes” to use as bait. Some kind of worm?

**kib**—lumbering term from Maine: some sort of box-like device with net, used against mosquitoes while sleeping. If you know what it is or was, please describe.

**kish**—a slovenly woman. Reported from southeastern Minnesota, 1967. Can this be confirmed? Is it used elsewhere? Of women only?

**kitchen**—from West Texas we have our only example of the word, said to mean “a rope tied to the flanks of a horse to make him buck.” Can anyone explain this sense of the word?

**let-her-go**—a children’s game, reported from Albany, NY 1901 (*Dialect Notes*). Does anybody know or remember it? Is it still played, and if so, how?

**lick that off the ground, I didn’t**—“I came to that by inheritance, not by acquisition.” Does anyone know this as a set phrase? Anything you can tell us about it would be welcome.

**line ball**—1983 in the *Wall Street Journal*: “I played line ball in Chicago over 40 years ago, in our school yard; played with a 16-inch soft ball, slow pitch, and two- or three-men teams.” Is it still played? Where?

**locker or food locker**—meaning a cupboard or safe, sometimes equivalent to a pantry, with dishes, etc. Where is this used?

**mattress**—a question of pronunciation. Does anyone know of a pronunciation other than the usual ‘mat, trus [mætrəs]? Where used? By what type of speakers?

**May breakfast**—Is this still a New England tradition? Is it kept up elsewhere? How is it organized nowadays? Social affair? Fund raiser?

**May wrapping**—a maypole dance, in which the pole is wrapped with ribbons by the dancers.

Does anyone know this name? Where is it used?  
**meddle or make**—in the phrase, always negative, “not to meddle or make with —,” meaning “to have nothing to do with”? Reported in the U.S. in 1721 and 1895. Is it still remembered or in use?

**merry widow**—a fish said to be found in Mobile Bay. Does anyone know it? Can it be identified? Why the name?

**me-see**—from the Maine coast, “no bigger than a *me-see*”—evidently a very small insect. Reported once, 1927. Can this be confirmed? Has it any relation to the Indians’ “no-see-um” for a tiny stinging fly?

**Methodist handshake**—evidently a firm and sincere handshake, but with overtones of dismissal, as when a young woman sends an unsuccessful suitor on his way. Other implications? If you know this term, please elaborate.

**Mexican sweat**—a card game? How and where is it played? Why *sweat*? Has it any connection with *Mexican dominoes*? Please give details of play, also where and when played.

**Mexico**—We are told that in Oklahoma *Mexico* means New Mexico, and the country is called *Old Mexico*. Can this be confirmed—or denied?

**mickey**—said to be the word for a sparrow “in California.” We have only one report, but it’s the kind of word that one might expect to be widespread. Other evidence would be welcome.

**pimpsy**—reported once from central Pennsylvania, 1930, meaning a petulant, hard-to-please girl. Does anyone know this? Is it still in use?

**quinny**—a cigarette smoked briefly, then tamped out so that it can be relit later. Our sole informant is a Rhode Islander living in California. How well is this known? What might the origin of the word be?

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**MIDWEST RUNES**—Note cards with a modern greeting (“May your walls stand stout and your hearth burn bright. . . .”) in runic letters using a phonetic alphabet based on Midwest American English: \$1.50 each for \$5 for five from Rod Wright, Box 423, Yellow Springs, OH 45387.

## Papers Accepted for Methods VIII, Victoria, August 3-7 (Cont.)

*(Continued from the Back Page)*

"The geography of the 'mid-vowel merger' in English: a reappraisal." **Paul A. Johnston Jr.**, Western Michigan Univ.

"Ethnography and discourse analysis: Language, region and personal identity in Texas." **Barbara Johnstone**, Texas A&M Univ.; **Delma McLeod-Porter**, McNeese State Univ., and **Judith Matson Bean**, Texas A&M Univ.

"EDP-usable encoding systems for phonetic transcriptions in dialectology: A survey of European solutions and a suggestion for standardization." **Bernhard Kelle**, Univ. Freiburg, Germany.

"Lexical borrowing and syntactic change in Prince Edward Island French." **Ruth King**, York Univ.

"LAMSAS goes SASsy II: Another generation of statistical methods for regional analysis." **William A. Kretzschmar, Jr.**, Univ. of Georgia.

"Some grammatical innovations in Irish dialects." **Ida V. Kriukova**, Russian Academy of Sciences.

"Aspects of dialectal variation in Southern and Eastern Balto-Fennic: Recent trends in modeling vowel harmony in Estonian and Vepsian." **Jean Léo Léonard**, Univ. de Provence, France.

"Role and importance of interdialectal contacts study for historical dialectology." **P.N. Lizanetz**, Univ. of Uzhgorod, Ukraine.

"*Ain't*, the all-purpose negative." **Natalie Maynor**, Mississippi State Univ.

"Educational and gender-related differences in verb forms: Last words." **Virginia G. McDavid**, Chicago State Univ., emer.

"Syntactic variation in a bidialectal speech community." **Gunnel Melchers**, Stockholms Univ.

"A new method of computer data analysis in dialectology." **Katalin Molnár**, Berzsenyi Coll., Hungary.

"Assessing vernacularity: An exercise in corpus formation." **Michael Montgomery**, Univ. of South Carolina.

"Dialectal variability in the historical perspective." **Elvira Myachinskaya**, Russian Academy of Sciences.

"The advantage of a multivariate statistical proce-

dure in social dialectology: A Canadian English example." **Judith A. Nylvek**, Univ. of Victoria.

"Reconstructing system membership from surface variability." **Shana Poplack**, Univ. of Ottawa.

"Relative clauses in the Francis archive of Norfolk speech." **Patricia Poussa**, Univ. of Sheffield, U.K.

"The U.S. South: The touchstone." **Dennis R. Preston**, Michigan State Univ.

"Classification of Polish dialect dictionaries." **Jerzy Reichan**, Instytut Języka Polskiego PAN, Poland.

"On the necessity of commenting on the French Atlas linguistiques régionaux." **Joseph Reisdorfer**, Lycée classique de Dickirch, Luxembourg.

"Acoustical analysis of nasal resonance patterns for two dialects of French." **Bernard and Anne Rochet**, Univ. of Alberta.

"Dialectal spelling evidence and Middle English quantitative phonology." **Julia V. Ryabukhina**, St. Petersburg Univ.

"Géographie linguistique et géologie linguistique." **Nicolae Saramandu**, Academia Romana, Romania.

"Substratum, superstratum or adstratal convergence? Crosslinguistic interference between North Russian dialects and Karelian." **Anneli Sarhimaa**, The Academy of Finland.

"Portable and reusable software for dialect surveys." **Guillaume Schiltz**, Univ. Freiburg, Germany.

"Field methods and nonstandard grammar." **Graham Shorrocks**, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland.

"The problem of defining the status of the boundary dialects of closely related languages (South Slavic area)." **Andrej N. Sobolev**, Inst. of Linguistic Studies, St. Petersburg, Russia.

"Social uses of untriggered English reflexives." **John J. Staczek**, Georgetown Univ.

"Polish language variation and change in an urban setting." **John J. Staczek**, Georgetown Univ.

"Tone geography in Thailand: The tone-box method." **Kalaya Tingsabath**, Chulalongkorn Univ., Thailand.

*(Continued on next page)*

## ACLS, NHA: Our Ears and Hands in New York and Washington

At a cost of nearly \$1 per member per year, ADS is one of the 53 constituents of the humanities and social science coalition known as the **American Council of Learned Societies**. At similar cost, ADS is one of the 76 constituents of the humanities advocate and listening post in Washington, D.C., the **National Humanities Alliance**.

These memberships are a bargain, giving us connections in New York and Washington, and supporting activities we could not undertake on our own. ACLS, for example, has built up an endowment worth \$37 million, primarily to support its fellowship program; NHA builds Congressional and White House support for the National Endowment for the Humanities and advises on NEH appointments.

Twice-yearly ACLS meetings of administrators also provide continuing education for your Executive Secretary, both in management and in new opportunities for our society. Annual meetings of ACLS (attended by delegate **Ronald Butters** as well as the Executive Secretary) and NHA offer top-level insights into the spiritual as well as the fiscal condition of the humanities.

### Papers at Methods VIII (Cont.)

*(Continued from preceding page)*

"The English Dialect Lexicon project." **Clive Upton** and **John Widdowson**, Univ. of Sheffield, U.K.

"Linguistic norms vs. actual usage in a disintegrating language." **Jaap van Marle** and **Caroline Smits**, P.J. Meertens-Instituut, Netherlands.

"On *DARE*, from *DARE*." **Luanne von Schneidmesser**, *DARE*, Univ. of Wisconsin.

"Language of the elite." **Berber Voortman**, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.

"Les doublets lexicaux en usage dans la région frontalière polono-ukrainienne." **Stefan Warchol**, Univ. Marie Curie-Sklodowska, Poland.

"Finnish Dialectometrics." **Kalevi Wiik**, Univ. of Turku, Finland.

"Survey of standardization in Tsuruoka City, Japan: Comparison of results from three surveys conducted after 20-year intervals." **Masato Yoneda**, National Language Research Institute, Japan.

To get our money's worth, benefits of ACLS and NHA connections and expertise must be available to all ADS members. And they are. Just ask the Executive Secretary for information on:

- journal donations to foreign libraries;
- university/public school initiative in humanities teaching;
- freedom of expression with government-funded grants;
- copyright issues in photocopying and electronic publication;
- financial and technological challenges facing research libraries;
- NEH budget, appointments to positions, priorities.

All these were matter for reports and discussion at the April annual meetings of ACLS and NHA. ADS members interested in pursuing any of these concerns will usually find a working group that welcomes their interest.

Of particular interest this time was a collection of reports from the delegates of all ACLS societies outlining current issues and prospects for research in each field. Butters' report for ADS will be published in our next newsletter. If you would like a concise inside view of the issues in any other humanities or social science field, write the Executive Secretary for a copy.

### DSNA Concluded: May 26

*(Continued from Page 4)*

models, the founders and shapers of the *OED* turned to an array of English dictionaries to found their effort. Among those are several which escape the common study of dictionary-making in English.

10:50 "Historical Perspectives in the *New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*." **Elizabeth M. Knowles**, Oxford Univ. Press.—The *New SOED* provides a wide and enhanced historical view of the English language by offering information on the age and life history of words and senses.

**COMING IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:  
PROGRAMS AND ABSTRACTS  
FOR FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS**

## August in Victoria, B.C., with Methods VIII

The eighth triennial International Conference on Dialectology (originally a conference on *methods* in dialectology, hence the title *Methods VIII*) takes place August 3-7 at the University of Victoria in floriated, sunnily faux-English Victoria, B.C. It is the second ADS-endorsed meeting this summer, and members are cordially invited to attend.

**Registration** is (take a deep breath) \$150 Canadian until July 15, \$165 after that. It includes a copy of the proceedings, as well as refreshments during the meeting. **Housing** will be available in University residences at \$32.68 single, \$47.81 double, until July 15. To register and reserve a room, write **Methods VIII, Conference Services, Division of University Extension, Univ. of Victoria, BOX 3030, Victoria B.C. V8W 3N6, Canada; phone (604) 721-8470, fax (604) 721-8774, e-mail squinn@postoffice.uvic.ca.**

For program information or other linguist-friendly assistance, telephone organizer **James Arthurs** at (604) 721-7432 or 721-7424, fax (604) 721-7423, e-mail linguist@uvvm.bitnet.

### PAPERS ACCEPTED

"Le corpus linguistique de Sherbrooke." **Normand Beauchemin**, Univ. de Sherbrooke.

"The multifarious realisations of 'r' in Algerian French." **Mohamed Benrabah**, Univ. of Oran, Algeria.

"The New Mexico-Colorado Spanish survey: Methodology and technology." **Garland Bills**, Univ. of New Mexico.

"Variation dans les emprunts dialectaux arabes à la langue française en Algérie." **Ali Bouamrane**, Univ. of Oran, Algeria.

"Inferring phonology from a postal questionnaire: Yod-dropping and /u/-laxing in the Golden Horseshoe." **Jack C. Chambers**, Univ. of Toronto.

"Regional variation in Acadian French: Quantitative analysis of the maritime lexicon." **Wladyslaw Cichocki**, Univ. of New Brunswick; **Rose Mary Babitch**, Univ. of New Brunswick; **Louise Péronnet**, Univ. de Moncton.

"Linguistic variation and the Shoebox programme." **Sandra Clarke**, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland.

"Dialect interference in standard Dutch." **Leonie**

**Cornips**, Univ. of Amsterdam.

"The 'Midland dialect' and Linguistic Atlas records." **Lawrence M. Davis**, Wichita State Univ.

"Variations in Vancouver English: Further factors in linguistic change?" **Gaelan Dodds de Wolf**, Univ. of Victoria.

"Archaisms in the Albanian dialects of Bulgaria and Ukraine." **Marina V. Domsiletskaya** and **Lyubov V. Sharapova**, Russian Academy of Sciences.

"Using commercial CD-ROMs for dialect research: Frenglish in Canadian newspapers." **Margery Fee**, Queen's Univ., Ontario.

"Distinguishing between language and dialect contact: Hiberno-English syntax." **Markku Filppula**, Univ. of Joensuu, Finland.

"The intersection of competing sound changes: Methods of identification and analysis." **Karin Flikeid**, St. Mary's Univ., Nova Scotia.

"In, on, and of in the dialect of Craven in West Yorkshire: The evidence of *A Native of Craven* (1828)." **Beat Glauser**, Univ. Heidelberg, Germany.

"Le russe des émigrés en France: cinq générations d'immersion dans la francophonie." **Nathalia Golubéva-Monatkina**, Moscow Inst. of International Relations.

"Fading dialectal distinctions among younger speakers in the extreme Midwest?" **Alvin L. Gregg**, Wichita State Univ.

"Sex as a factor in variation and change of popular speech in rural Brazilian Portuguese." **Brian F. Head**, State Univ. of New York, Albany.

"Americans' perceptions of linguistic correctness: Evidence from ordinary people." **Veronika Horvath**, Ball State Univ.

"Development of English English dialects since the late 17th century." **Ossi Ihalainen**, Univ. of Helsinki, Finland.

"Linguistic geography and phonological instability: Vowel length in East-Central Yiddish." **Neil G. Jacobs**, Ohio State Univ.

"The localization of a Wycliffite standard document by dialect-geographical means." **Paul A. Johnston Jr.**, Western Michigan Univ.

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